

Message Text

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S/S:MR. ORTIZ

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 116393

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FOL REPEAT OF CAIRO 6473 TO SECSTATE MAY 11

QTE:

S E C R E T CAIRO 6473

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FOR THE SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ANSC, EG, US

SUBJECT: SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING

REF: STATE 114795

1. AFTER HIS BUSY DAY YESTERDAY, FAHMY DID NOT GO TO THE OFFICE TODAY. THIS EVENING, HOWEVER, HE RECEIVED ME AT HIS HOME SO THAT I COULD CONVEY YOUR MESSAGE TO SADAT AND TO HIM.

2. AFTER READING IT CAREFULLY SEVERAL TIMES, HE COMMENTED THAT OUR REPLY WAS JUST ABOUT WHAT HE HAD

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EXPECTED. OUR "UNDERSTANDING" OF LAST SEPTEMBER

WITH THE ISRAELIS HAS SHARPLY CURTAILED OUR FLEXIBILITY. I POINTED OUT YOUR MESSAGE INDICATED THAT THIS IS A PARTICULARLY DIFFICULT PERIOD FOR US. HE WOULD SURELY APPRECIATE THE REASONS FOR THIS. FAHMY INSISTED IT IS OUR "UNDERSTANDING" WITH THE ISRAELIS, AND REPEATEDLY CAME BACK TO THIS. HE ALSO SHOWED SOME SENSITIVITY TO THE LAST PARAGRAPH ABOUT THE "SLAP" AT SADAT, CLAIMING HE HAD NOT SAID THIS. (HE DID, BUT THERE WAS NO PURPOSE TO PRESSING THE POINT.) HE THOUGHT IT WOULD NOT BE PRUDENT TO SEND THAT PARAGRAPH TO SADAT AND ASKED THAT I GIVE HIM A NEW COPY OF THE MESSAGE WITHOUT THE PARAGRAPH. I SAID I WOULD DO SO TOMORROW, AT WHICH TIME HE WILL SEND IT TO THE PRESIDENT AT BURG EL-ARAB.

3. FAHMY SAID HE DID NOT AGREE WITH OUR ANALYSIS THAT ABSTAINING ON A MODERATE UNSC RESOLUTION WOULD COMPLICATE THE PROBLEM OF RENEWING THE UNDOF MANDATE LATER THIS MONTH, SINCE THE SYRIANS COULD BE EXPECTED TO INCREASE THEIR PRICE. IN HIS VIEW, IF WE ABSTAIN ON A MODERATE RESOLUTION IT SHOULD MAKE IT EASIER FOR US TO TAKE A RIGID POSITION ON ANY SYRIAN RESOLUTION IN CONNECTION WITH UNDOF UNLESS WE HAVE ALREADY AGREED WITH THE SYRIANS TO PAY A HIGHER PRICE FOR UNDOF RENEWAL. HE WONDERED IF WE MIGHT ALREADY HAVE AN ARRANGEMENT WITH SYRIA ON UNDOF RENEWAL IN RETURN FOR US SUPPORT OF SYRIAN ACTIVITIES IN LEBANON. I TOLD HIM THIS WAS PATENTLY NOT THE CASE, BUT HE REMAINED SKEPTICAL. HE CLAIMED SAUDI AND KUWAITI FONMINS HAD JUST CONFIRMED HIS IMPRESSION.

4. I ASKED HIM IF THERE WAS NOT SOME WAY FOR GOE TO ALLOW THE DEBATE TO END WITHOUT A RESOLUTION. HIS INITIAL REACTION WAS THAT THIS IS IMPOSSIBLE. WHEN I POINTED OUT, HOWEVER, THAT WE HAVE HAD SOME REPORTS FROM NEW YORK SUGGESTING THAT A BODY OF SENTIMENT MIGHT BE GROWING, INCLUDING PERHAPS EVEN THE PLO REP TERZI, THAT A NO RESOLUTION OUTCOME MIGHT BE ACCEPTABLE, FAHMY UNDERTOOK TO LOOK INTO THIS. HE INDICATED EGYPTIAN PERMREP ABDUL MEGUID IS UNDER INSTRUCTIONS TO
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BEGIN CONSULTATIONS WITH THE ARAB STATES TODAY AND WILL PROBABLY GET IN TOUCH WITH SCRANTON IN THE NEXT DAY OR TWO. HE WOULD TOMORROW SEND SUPPLEMENTARY INSTRUCTIONS TO ABDUL MEGUID ASKING HIM TO EXPLORE INTERESTED PARTIES' ATTITUDES ON A NO RESOLUTION OUTCOME. IF THERE IS SUFFICIENT SENTIMENT ALONG THESE LINES, PERHAPS THE UNSC PRESIDENT COULD ARRANGE SUCH AN OUTCOME BY A CONSENSUS.

5. IN THINKING FURTHER ABOUT THE MATTER, FAHMY ALSO BROACHED THE DESIRABILITY OF WALDHEIM CONVENING THE UNSC OR UNDOF, SY, TEN DAYS OR SO BEFORE THE MAY 30 DEADLINE. THIS WOULD HELP DIVERT ATTENTION FROM WEST BANK DEBATE AND MIGHT MAKE IT EASIER FOR GOE AND OTHERS TO ACCEPT A NO RESOLUTION OUTCOME. ALTHOUGH WALDHEIM IS NOW IN AFRICA ELECTIONEERING, HE ASKED THAT WE APPROACH THE SYG ABOUT THIS POSSIBILITY.

6. COMMENT: ALL IN ALL, FAHMY'S REACTION WAS RELATIVELY MILD. I SENSED THAT HE WOULD LIKE TO FIND A WAY OUT IF HE NOW COULD DO SO. MUCH WILL DEPEND ON HOW MUCH SENTIMENT THERE IS IN UNSC ND AMONG INTERESTED PARTIES ON A NO RESOLUTION OUTCOME. HIS SUSPICION ABOUT OUR ACTIVITIES IN LEBANON REMAIN, HOWEVER, AND HE WONDERED SEVERAL TIMES WHY HE HAS NOT YET HEARD ANYTHING FROM US ON WHAT WE ARE CURRENTLY DOING IN LEBANON. I SUSPECT SAUDI FONMI MAY HAVE TOLD HIM SOMETHING ABOUT OUR EXCHANGES WITH FAHD ON THE SUBJECT, WHICH MAY HAVE FURTHER AROUSED HIS SUSPICIONS. EILTS UNQTE KISSINGER

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